

5       A PROCESS FOR PREPARING (BRANCHED-ALKYL)ARYLSULFONATES  
          AND A (BRANCHED-ALKYL)ARYLSULFONATE COMPOSITION

Abstract of the Disclosure

10       A process for preparing branched alkyl aromatic  
hydrocarbons, which process comprises contacting branched  
olefins with an aromatic hydrocarbon under alkylating  
conditions, which branched olefins have been obtained by  
a process which comprises dehydrogenating an  
15 isoparaffinic composition over a suitable catalyst which  
isoparaffinic composition has been obtained by  
hydrocracking and hydroisomerization of a paraffinic wax  
and which isoparaffinic composition comprises paraffins  
having a carbon number in the range of from 7 to 35, of  
20 which paraffins at least a portion of the molecules is  
branched, the average number of branches per paraffin  
molecule being at least 0.5 and the branching comprising  
methyl and optionally ethyl branches; a process for  
preparing (branched-alkyl)arylsulfonates, comprising  
25 sulfonating branched alkyl aromatic hydrocarbons which  
branched alkyl aromatic hydrocarbons have been prepared  
by the said process for preparing branched alkyl aromatic  
hydrocarbons; and branched alkyl aromatic hydrocarbon  
compositions and (branched-alkyl)arylsulfonate  
30 compositions which are obtainable by the processes so  
defined.